

# Proposed Guardianship Analysis

## Informal Kinship

(no government involvement)

Parent(s)

Grandparent(s)/kin

## Kinship Diversion

- CPS referral (no petition filed)
- FPM meeting

Kinship Diversion

## Formal Kinship

- CPS referral (no petition filed)
- FPM meeting prior to 5 day hearing
- Court holds 5 day hearing

Court formally places children with relatives

Relative placement

Relative foster care placement

## Legal Options

Current:

- Court grants legal custody

Options for Court:

- Permanent for full guardianship

## Issues

- No legal authority
- Parent(s) adverse to relinquishing parental rights
- Must seek legal custody
  - Cost prohibitive
  - Divisive
- No monetary support
- Lack of formal reunification plan
- No home study/criminal/CPS background check
- Safety of child
- Lack of Permanency

## Legal options

Current:

- Seek legal custody on their own or child comes back into the system

Options:

1. Permanent or full guardianship
2. Limited guardianship

## PROPOSAL IS IN ALIGNMENT WITH

1. Mandated FPM policy
2. Seeking of relatives as placement and the import of family
3. Increasing permanency for children